THE CHRONICLE OF ARTS.

EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER TOPICS.

CAMILLE PISSARRO-A BRILLIANT COLLECTION OF HIS WORKS-PICTURES BY HORATIO WALKER AND C. M. DEWEY-THE

PRINZ COLLECTION-A BEAU-TIFUL TROYON.

The exhibition of the week is at the Durand-Ruel Gallery, where a collection of about forty paintings tes the development of the art of Camille Pissarro from the seventies to the present day. It will revive interest in impressionism, and in so do-ing will doubtless provoke much adverse criticism. school has strengthened its hold upon American taste, but it has not yet fully established itself anywhere as impeccable, and there must be repudia tion of Pissarro in some quarters as there is repudiation of his colleagues. But we think that candid eriticism will find in these canvases from the brush of a veteran in the impressionistic group so many good qualities that the defects will no more serve as a condemnation for his general tenets than the defects of Millet, for example, serve for a condemnation of the broad principles of the Barbizo thool. Pissarro has, to begin with, a healthy preference for truth over mere artistic legerdemain. He has sought, as Monet has sought, to render the fleeting impression of the moment, to deal with light and color as things so elusive that one must capture them on the wing and set them down on canvas exactly as one sees them in a moment of happy com-prehension. But he has the synthetic eye of a true artist, and while he is loyal to the ideal of spon-taneity which lies at the basis of his school he knows that he must be plausible, accurate, or his picture falls to the ground. Thus from the beginning, as one may observe by comparing the snow scene (No. 20) of 1874, with any one of the Rouen river subjects of the present year, he has secured an admirably unified effect, the effect of nature it-He has never been merely arbitrary and fantastic. So far back as 1881, when he was painting the "Paysans Causant," he made for solidity and produced compositions which had all the atmosphere of the new tradition without sacrificing one jot of the sound substance, the sweet reasonableness of old. In this collection, where it is possible study his art at full length, the impression received a painter who has a genuine sympathy for composition, a love for good construction and for pictorial harmony. In his latest works, the fifteen tures of scenes among the quays and bridges of men, he has all the animation, all the effect of busy life accurately observed that would be expectan impressionist. He has also the rectitude sh and depth which are expected ative and scrious-minded artist. area are altogether charming. They r with life, they are flooded with

visible in the galleries uptown. Messrs. Cottler & lately taken possession of new premises East Thirty-fourth-st., and the well-propose tioned, well-lighted gallery has been inaugurated with a collection of pictures by Mr. Horatio Walker. He is a painter of barnyard scenes and of cattle in the fields, who began some ten or tweive years ago by threatening to emulate too ardently the taste and methods of the modern Dutchmen, of men like Israels and Mauve. But the initiative impulse soon passed, and his work developed a marked and attractive individuality. It has great simplicity. The treatment of landscape and of animal forms is exceedingly broad. The modelling of the latter especially is as vigorous as that of Millet. Moreover, there has run through all of Mr. Walker's realistic studies a vein of delicate color and still more delicate feeling. which has lifted his subjects to a high level of beauty. A good illustration is provided by the pict-"A Siesta," which represents a porcine nother of peculiar vastness and brutality lying amid a shoal of piglings. The group is not in itself But the glimpse of landscape in the background introduces a note of bucolle placidity and harm-a kind of sweet, rural atmosphere pervades the composition, and the grosser elements in the disappear. Mr. Walker has often exerted this gift of transmogrification, as it were. The Barnyard Man and Horses' is a fine example of its power. There the two farmhorses are peculiar, seavy creatures, and the man is not attractive, but his blue jacket strikes an exquisite note of color. his blue jacket strikes an exquisite note of color, and along the avenue of trees which carries the vision to the vanishing point there is flung such a sunny, mellow stream of light that the whole aspect of the scene is transformed. There are altogether about thirty pictures in this collection, and, though they date from many different years in the arist's career, they are remarkably even in merit. We do not find Mr. Walker's treatment of "The Prodigal Son" tery successful, but as a painter of great, sleepy-eyed cattle or shivering lambe or grotesque swine he has unusual power and even charm. His color is sombre, as a rule, but always rich and true. From time to time in the exhibitions he has compelled admiration, but 'n this demonstration of his abilities he is likely to be more cordially liked than ever before.

The Klackner Gallery is hung with a number of landscapes and sea pictures by Mr. Charles Melville Dowey. He looks at nature through peculfarly poetic glasses, and the results as he places them upon canvas are beautiful with a sort of opalescence. He is apt to lose sight of the importance of textures and to sacrifice veracity to a fondness for purely coloristic effects. But the inspiration of his work is so imaginative and tender, the note is so lyrical, that even when he is most unreal and dreamy he is impossible to resist. He has a sensuous quality, the beauty belonging to an art which hovers midway between cloudland and the solid earth. In recent years he has achieved greater freedom of execution, a looser and more substantial mode of brushing than was formerly to be remarked in his productions. He has only to be a little more courageous in definition, to put into his skilful generalizations a little more force, a little keener edge, to take rank as a fairly brilliant painter of gentle, meditative themes. Mr. Frank Eugene's portraits and other pictures at the Gallery have some pleasant color, but they are turbid in tone and the style is weak. they are turbid in tone and the style is weak. They are, on the whole, immature performances. It may be mentioned at this point that Miss Bertha Delina Sanders has some clever water-colors at the Kraushaar Gallery, and that Mr. George D. M. Peixotto, a portrait painter of some facility and vigor, has at the Knoedler Gallery a new portrait of Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley, mother of President McKinley.

At the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries there will be old next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings a collection of over a hundred foreign and American paintings belonging to Mr. Charles F. Prinz The ale ought to be a popular one, for in all the long list there is hardly a picture without some pretty ch of humor or sentiment, and the average of technical excellence is fair. The artists represented are men like Julien Dupré, Haquette, Grolleron, ful and daintily colored view of landscape or of genre subjects, and their work is invariably decorative and pleasing. Here and there, in such a
cattle piece as that of J. H. L. De Haas, "On the
River Bank, Holland," or in figure subjects like
the "Duet" of Witkowski, there is a picturesqueness, combined with executive ability, which should
be recognized at the forthcoming sale. The gallery presents, indeed, a very gay appearance, for
the canvases are all in good preservation, and
they represent men who are bound to make a
genial impression. Collections like this do not, as
a rule, bring high prices, but the work is meritorious, and it is the more likely to be popular because it is accessible to collectors of moderate incomes. genre subjects, and their work is invariably deco-

At the Schaus Gallery there is hung a group of pictures described in the invitation as "five master-The "Portrait of Bismarck," painted last year by Lembach, can hardly be described as a masterpiece, but it is certainly a vigorous, vitalized mork, with a pathetic interest in the rugged old head. The three Barbizon paintings shown are indubitably of high rank. The little landscape by Diss, with its wide plain and solltary figure, riding beneath a gray sky, is in his most admirably poised and masterful vein. The Dupré is unctuous and brilliant in color. The Troyon, a little panel in which a number of ducklings paddle about a pend near an old building, with the landscape spreading out on the other side of the scene, is one of the most beautiful examples of his art ever shown in America. The spirit of the thing is delightfully pastoral and the deep, oily tones are superb. For the portrait by Cornells Janssens, a seventeenth century painter of modest eminence, praise may be equally unqualified. It is not a great work, but in its suave, finished way it is unquestionably of singular elegance and distinction. beneath a gray sky, is in his most admirably

A single announcement of importance is to be a press view of its nineteenth annual exhibition next Friday. The show will open to the public on Sunday, about a week in advance of the opening of the spring Academy.

GUARDING THE LEVEE

HOW THE PLANTERS AND THE GOVERN MENT FIGHT THE ENCROACHING MISSISSIPPI.

-COLONEL GILLESPIE AND HIS MISSION IN

The reports which were received from the Mississippi Valley yesterday stirred grave apprehensions among those who know how much destruction and loss of property and life always accompany a great overflow of the river. ple who do not know the country and have not made the trip from Cairo to New-Orleans at a time when the river was high the situation is almost incom-

With a view to guarding against the destruction of the property along the banks of the river at times when the bed will not hold the great volume of water which comes from the many tributaries, levees have been built along the Mississippi from Cairo to the mouth of the river, a distance of about 1,000 miles. The United States Government has appropriated millions of deliars for the improvent of the Mississippi, and of this more than one-

half has been used in building these levees. Colonel G. L. Gillespie, of the Corps of Engineers, president of the Commission, says that the two banks of the river are not equally affected. Thus from Cairo to Memphis the west bank is the greater sufferer, from Memphis to Vicksburg both banks are submerged, but the east or Mississippi side to a greater extent. The district also receives the

overflow from the Red and Arkansas rivers.

The great valley which is subject to inundation includes 2,800 square miles in Missouri, an area equal to about one-third of the State of Delaware; 4.600 square miles in Arkansas, as much as the area of the State of Connecticut; 7,000 square miles in Mississippi, equal to all the land fit for cultiva-tion in Egypt; 15,000 square miles in Louisiana, equal to 15 per cent more than the entire area of Holland, and 6,000 square miles in Illinois, Kentucky

The district which includes the border lines of Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana vields, under normal conditions, a cotton crop of about 1,500,000 bales a year, equal to \$75,000,000, and that amount of property is placed in jeopardy every year by overflows of the river. The levees have been built by private subscription, by State and by city taxes, and a tax on every bale of cotton is levied in some districts for the purpose of collecting funds for that purpose. The Government work supplements that which is done under State supervision. The protecting levees are earthworks about fifteen feet high and about fifty feet in thickness, flat at the top, and in general appearance much like great temporary fortifications. They are built in the summer season, when the water is low, and the nature of the earth is carefully taken into consideration with a view to using only the kind which will pack well and offer the greatest amount of resistance to the water against which it will have to stand. When complete the levees are planted with grass, and in parts of the country where they are well taken care of and where the floods have not injured them, they become ernaments to the banks of the river.

There has been no serious overflow since 1893, and since then the levees have been in good condition and the various levee boards have done much to guard against serious damage; but the present flood will doubtless ruin a great deal of their work.

There is a "danger line" all along the levees which is calculated by the highest water mark of known freshets, and this line varies with the character of levee; while it may be one foot from the top of an old embankment, it would be one or two feet lower on one that is fresh or unseasoned.

The reports received yesterday from the flooded district show that in many places the water has already risen beyond the danger line, which may be seen from the following table:

Danger line, Present height,

Once beyond the confines of the banks, the Mis-Once beyond the confines of the banks, the Miscissippi is likely to overflow the country for miles inland, and the pressure on the earthworks comes from two sides. It is then that the planters are on their guard night and day to prevent breaks in the levees, which stand between them and deartuction. Guards selected from the best men in the community patrol the embankment night and day not only to check any slight break, but to guard against vandalism. At a slight rise in the river the beats are of considerable extent, but as the water rises and the danger becomes greater, they are made shorter, and in floods like the present one double patrols at short distances are arranged. The ground is carefully watched, and at the first sign of a break bags of earth are thrown into the crevasse, and assistance is called if the force near by is too small to cope with the break. Every person near the river knows how essential to the safety of the whole district the level is at such a time, and still there are men who wait for the floods to cut through the embankment to shoot logs from the back country into the main stream. The guards carry guns, and any man found on the level at high-water time who cannot give a satisfactory account of himself is likely to become the central figure at a coroner's inquest. A few days ago a pilot endeavored to emulate the example of Jim Eliudso and run his endangered boat against a levee, but the guards, fearing that the wash would cause a break, raised their weapons and compelled the boat to leave without making a landing. One of the greatest dangers to the level is the crawlish. This little sapper and miner works from the riverside, and unless he is promptly checked, his attacks cause destruction. There are many instances on record where a strip of levee has had all the outward appearance of solidity and stability, and has collapsed without visible cause. Investigation showed that the base of the structure had become honeycombed by crawfish.

All reports from the Mississippi Valley indicate elssippl is likely to overflow the country for miles inland, and the pressure on the earthworks comes

TWO WELL-TO-DO PRISONERS IN COURT.

BOTH FOUND HELPLESS IN THE STREET-ONE OF THEM APPARENTLY A MEMBER OF THE MANHATTAN CLUB.

Two distinguished-looking and well-dressed men were arraigned in the Jefferson Market Court yesterday morning, charged with intoxication. The first described himself as J. G. Robinson, of Milford, N. J. Mr. Robinson was found on Friday night by Policeman Curran, of the West Thirtieth-st. station, in Broadway, near Twenty-second-st., wander ing aimlessly about, utterly oblivious of his sur-roundings and thoroughly unable to take care of himself. Policeman Curran locked him up for safe keeping. When arraigned before Magistrate Cornell yesterday morning Mr. Robinson had little to say. He seemed anxious to pay his fine and get away. The Magistrate fixed the sum at 12. Mr. Robinson is said to be a wealthy resident of Mil-

ford, N. J. The other prisoner was also well dressed and were a shining silk hat, and had the unmistakable air of a clubman. He gave his name as James H. Hurst. He was found lying on the sidewalk in Thirty-fourth-st., near Sixth-ave., and had \$306 in cash in his pockets, a \$500 gold watch, which struck the hours, and a magnificent diamond ring and pin. In his pockets were also found half a dozen or more bar checks of the Manhattan Club, Thirty-fourthat, and Fifth-ave. Mr. Hurst's left eye and the left

st and Flith-ave. Mr. Hurst's left eye and the left side of his face were badly bruised, evidently by 2 fail. After remaining locked up for a short time friends came to the station and secured his release by furnishing ball.

Yesterday, when arraigred in the Jefferson Market Court. Mr. Hurst's sys and face were badly swellen. When told by tha Magistrate that he was charged with intoxicat'en, Mr. Hurst replied that he had not been drinkins. "I came out of the Manhattan Club about 9:30 o'clock, said he, "and walked up Thirty-fourth-st. When near Sixth-ave, a man, whom I did not have an opportunity to see, struck me in the face with somethins. That is all I remember until I recovered consciousness in the police station. I had not been drinking. My condition, which the policeman probably thought was intoxication, was due to the fearful blow I received."

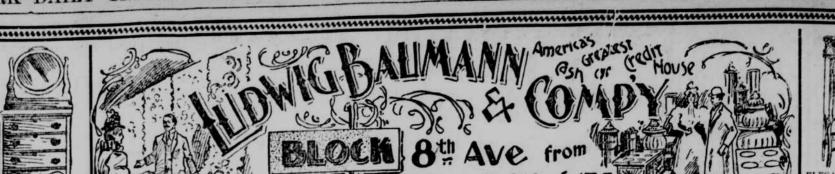
Magistrate Cornell smiled at this story.

Hurst said he lived at the Waldorf Hotel, and formerly had a law office at No. 2 Wall-st. He was going to move it to the Mutual Life Insurance Building, he said.

"Well, I'll overlook this and discharge you," said the Court, "but don't come again."

The name given by the prisoner is believed to be fictitious.

PUTTING THE YELLOW JOURNALS OUT. The roll of organizations which have excluded oms has had these recent additions: The Union Library of Trenton, N. J.; the Clyde Apollo Club and the Catholic Benevolent Legion of Clyda N. Y.; the Young Men's Christian Association of Binghamton, N. Y.; the Colonial Club of Princeton University and the St. James Club of Fordham.





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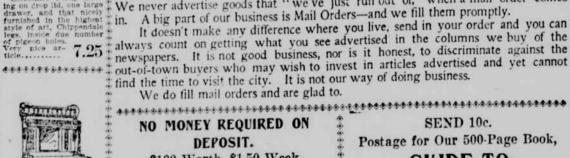
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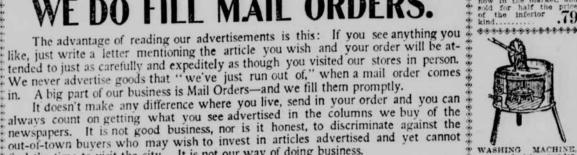
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WORK FOR THE PRISONERS.

CHARLTON T. LEWIS SAYS IT IS ABSO-LUTELY NECESSARY.

THE MISTAKE MADE BY THE REVISERS OF

THE CONSTITUTION-CONVICTS CANNOT BE EMPLOYED OUTSIDE OF THE PRISONS PROPITABLY OR ECONOMICALLY. Charlton T. Lewis, president of the New-York

Prison Association, has given close attention for years to the study of penology, and feels a deep interest in the present condition of the convicts in the State prisons, which has come about through the operation of the Constitution as revised in 1894, when the provisions of the obnoxious Yates law. repealed five or six years before in response to the unanimous expression of intelligent public opinion, was, in almost identical language, made a part of the fundamental law of the State. He also has decided convictions on the question of employing convicts on public works outside of the prisons. when seen by a representative of The Tribune at his law office in the Mutual Life Building on Friday, Mr. Lewis said, in answer to questions:

"The present condition of things in the prisons of

this State is due to the mistake of the Constitutional Convention of 1894 in going contrary to the convictions of the best men sitting in the body, and, I believe, of a majority of the members. There is no possibility of finding any satisfactory remedy for the evil until the Constitution is alremedy for the evil until the Constitution is al-tered so as to permit the proper management of the prison population. That the prisoners must be set to work and kept at work during their confine-ment is a fundamental principle. It is the only way in which the expenses of the prisons can be kept down so as to make the burden on the people reasonable, and, what is much more important, it is the only way in which the prisoners themselves can be preserved from greater degradation and demoralization during their confinement, and from becoming more decidedly the enemies of society on their release; and, further, it is the only way in which they can be enabled, such of them as are

capable of becoming self-supporting citizens, to earn a living when free men.

WORK THE FIRST REQUIREMENT. "Every successful reformatory movement in the

management of criminals embodies educational and persistent labor as the first requirement." The opposition to that labor does not represent an intelligent conviction of any class of people. It de-

opposition to that labor does not represent an intelligent conviction of any class of people. It derives its apparent strength chiefly from the appeals of demagogues to the prejudice of labor organizations, acting on the disgraceful cowardice of narrow-minded politicians. The laboring men of the city, as a whole, are already satisfied that the use of the power of the labor organizations to bring about idleness in the prisons is a pernicious movement, and with proper effort to bring the facts home to the minds of all who are interested in the matter, there is no doubt that public opinion will be unanimous on it. Were there a few broadminded men thoroughly familiar with the question, and bold enough to declare the truth, this movement would speedily die away.

"As a temporary means to palliate the terrible evils threatened by idleness in the prisons, it is possible that numbers of prisoners may be employed on public works within the prisons. The rebuilding and extension of the State Prison at Sing Sing form an instance of what I have in mind. The example of the great prison of Wormwood Scrubbs, in London, where all the work of construction was done by the convicts themselves, is interesting and instructive on this point. But it is hopeless to attempt to employ the entire prison population in this way. Large numbers are unfit for the particular work that is needed in the erection of buildings, while entirely competent to do other kinds of work. Moreover, if all the prisoners fit to be employed were set at work of this kind, there would soon be nothing of the sort left to do. "The proposed employment of prisoners, outside of the prisons in making public roads and the like is absurd on the face of it. The recent experiment at Dannemora demonstrated, what every one acquainted with the subject already knew, that there was nothing practical in such a scheme. If the people of New-York were prepared to chain those who have become their wards by offending against the laws in chain gangs, and drive them at the muzzles of r

LABOR, OR SUBSTITUTES FOR LABOR. "At present, I understand, the Superintendent of Prisons and the wardens of the several penal in-stitutions are busily at work endeavoring to find labor, or substitutes for labor, which may do away

with the effects of idleness. It is better that the prisoners should be kept occupied in severe military drill, or even on the treadmill, than that they should have nothing to do. But the wild absurdity of supporting in idleness a large number of ablebodied men whose services are due to the State is too obvious to permit such useless and wasteful occupation to be a permanent policy.

"I need not dwen on the false pretence put forth by many men in a position to know better that labor in the prisons involves dangerous competition with labor outside of the prisons. Its competition with labor outside of the prisons. Its competitive effect, even in trades in which prison labor is most productive, has never in any instance been other than insignificant, while the contribution which the labor of prisoners makes to the wealth of the community is substantial, and becomes an important element in the budget of the State, as well as not entirely insignificant in the prosperity of all labor with which it does not directly compete."

In conclusion, Mr. Lewis said that there was nothing to be done at present beyond letting the people of the State learn their lesson over again. It was astonishing that after their experience with the Yates law they should have consented to try the same experiment again. As things stood, there was no hope of amending the Constitution so that the amendment had been passed by the Legislature that met in the year after the adoption of the new Constitution, but in the next Legislature it failed by a narrow majority, and there was nothing to be gained by seeking to get an amendment adopted by the present Legislature.

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A GREAT ARTISTIC EVENT.

THE REOPENING OF THE BORGIA APARTMENTS OF THE VATICAN—PROFESSOR TESORONE'S "MIRACLE."

Rome correspondence of The Pall Mall Gazette.

TESORONE'S "MIRACLE."

Rome correspondence of The Pall Mall Gazette.

To-day (March S) at the Vatican, in the presence of the Pope, Cardinals and Court, was imagurated what may without exaggeration be called the general control of the factor of the Pope, Cardinals and Court, was imagurated what may without exaggeration be called the general control of the factor of the Apostolic Exlanury testoral control of the factor of the Pope, Cardinals and Court, was imagurated what may without exaggeration be called the greatest artistic event of the latter half of the general control of the factor of the proposed of the factor of the factor of the factor of the proposed of the factor of the fac

utmost care, for fear of damaging the rest of the utmost care, for fear of damaging the rest of the structure.
For this work Leo XIII nominated a committee composed of Count Vespignani, architect, Signet Setz, picture inspector of the Vatican, and Frefessor Tesorone, director of the Artistic Industrial Museum of Naples. With regard to the latter, it is worth noticing that he is the first Government official employed by the Vatican, and he gained his charge through a competition in which Cantagalli of the famous majolica works of Florence, was his opponent. However, to Cantagalli was given the restoration of two of the rooms in the Borglatons of two of the rooms in the Borglatons of two of the apartments, which consist besides the tower, of three large halls of 100 square metres each and an immense alon called the Hall of the Pontiffs, 250 square metres in size. The rooms of the tower, too, were painted by Blagio di Betto, of Perugia, the commanion of Perugino. Of the three large halls, one especially is from the hand of Pinturicchio himself, the principal picture of which represents St. Catherine with Emperor Massamino, the former being a likeness of Lucrezia Borgia and the latter her brother, the famous Caesar Borgia.

In this same hall is a portrait of the master potents of the master part of the master part of the proposed to the master part of the proposed to the master part of the part of the master part of the master part of the part of the master part of the master part of the part of th









